

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 08696 221350Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
EB-08 INR-10 FAA-00 DOTE-00 CA-01 /064 W
-----018762 221354Z /53

O 221340Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0879
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE

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E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS:EAIR, CASC, UR
SUBJECT: DOWNED KOREAN AIRLINER: FINNISH AIR CLEARANCE

REF: MOSCOW 8688

1. SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS INQUIRED IF U.S. HAS
FINNISH PERMISSION FOR OVERFLIGHT FROM MURMANSK TO
HELSINKI. WE RESPONDED THAT IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING
FINNISH AUTHORITIES ARE PREPARED TO GIVE THEIR FULL
COOPERATION TO THIS FLIGHT. WE ALSO STATED THAT WE HAD
ASKED OUR EMBASSY IN HELSINKI TO TAKE ANY STEPS WHICH IT
BELIEVED WERE NECESSARY WITH FINNISH GOVERNMENT TO THIS
END. SOVIETS SAID THEY WOULD NEVERTHELESS LIKE TO KNOW
IF FINNS HAVE APPROVED FLIGHT.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY HELSINKI ADVISE US IMMEDIATELY
WHETHER WE HAVE PERMISSION OF FINNISH AUTHORITIES FOR
FLIGHT FROM MURMANSK TO HELSINKI. SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED
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THAT FLIGHT FROM MURMANSK TO HELSINKI SHOULD CROSS INTO
FINNISH TERRITORY IN VICINITY OF IVALO. WE UNDERSTAND
INFORMALLY FROM USBER THAT FLIGHT PLAN THEN TAKES IT OVER
NORWEGIAN AIRSPACE BEFORE CROSSING BACK OVER FINNISH
TERRITORY TO HELSINKI. AS FOR TIME OF FLIGHT, WE HAD BEEN
HOPING THAT FLIGHT WOULD DEPART BERLIN IN TIME TO REACH
MURMANSK AND PERMIT TAKE OFF THIS EVENING FOR HELSINKI.

DELAY IN TRANSMITTAL OF FLIGHT PLAN, HOWEVER, AND IN
DEPARTURE FROM BERLIN NOW MAKES DEPARTURE TIME FROM
MURMANSK QUESTIONABLE. WHEN WE MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF
DEPARTURE THIS EVENING FROM MURMANSK, MFA OFFICIAL SAID
THAT THIS WOULD DEPEND ON ARRIVAL TIME THERE AND AMOUNT OF
TIME INVOLVED IN MAKING TRANSFER OF PERSONNEL. TOON

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Message Attributes

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